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PUBLIC PRINTER NAMES FIVE TO DEPOSITORY LIBRARY COUNCIL

Public Printer Michael F. DiMario has named five new members to the Depository Library Council to the Public Printer. The Council advises the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) on issues related to the public access to Government information through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). Administered by GPO, the FDLP is a nationwide geographically-dispersed system consisting of nearly 1,400 libraries acting in partnership with the United States Government for the purpose of enabling the general public to have local access to Federal Government information at no cost.

The newly appointed members bring diversified experience to the Council. They are: Duncan Aldrich, Head, Business and Government Information Center, University of Nevada-Reno, Reno, NV; Mary Alice Baish, Assistant Washington Affairs Representative, American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), Georgetown University Law Library, Washington, DC; Diane Garner, Head, Government Documents & Non-Book Formats Department, Harvard College Library, Cambridge, MA; Gregory W. Lawrence, Government Information Librarian, Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY; and Julia Wallace, Head, Government Publications, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

The Federal Depository Library Program is one of the major means by which the Federal Government fulfills its information dissemination responsibilities to the citizenry. In Fiscal Year 1996, GPO distributed 16.4 million copies of 56,512 individual publications in paper, microfiche, and electronic formats to depository libraries.

Approximately 50 "regional" depositories receive all publications distributed through the FDLP for permanent retention to ensure that archival resource collections of Government documents remain available throughout the United States. The remaining "selective" depositories may choose to receive only specific categories of Government documents at no cost. Depository libraries maintain tangible Government information products for use by the general public, offer professional assistance in locating and using Government information, and provide local capability for the general public to access Government electronic information services.

The Depository Library Council to the Public Printer consists of 15 representatives of the Government information community, who serve for a term of 3 years. Each year, five members are appointed by the Public Printer. The newly appointed members will be introduced to Council activities and procedures at the fall 1997 meeting in Clearwater Beach, FL.